Message Text

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: FAO, UN

SUBJ: FAO DIRECTO-GENERAL'S REMARKS ON POLITICIZATION OF UN AGENCIES AND ROLE OF DEVELOPED COUNTRIES

- 1. FOLLOWING IS THE PORTION OF FAO DIRECT-GENERAL SAOUMA'S SPEECH AT THE BERLING GREEN WEEK ON JANUARY 28 CONCERNING THE QUESTION OF POLITICIZATION AND THE ROLE OF DEVELOPED COUNTRIES.
- 2. QTE AS REGARDS THE ORGANIZATION, IT IS FASHIONABLE TO CRITICISE THE ORGANIZATIONS OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM AS POLITICAL AND EXPENSIVE. I WILL NOT SPEAK FOR THE SYSTEM.

 I CAN SPEAK FOR FAO. THE POLITICAL ATMOSPHERE IN FAO IS,
 I BELIEVE, VERY FAVOURABLE AND IT IS MY AIM TO KEEP IT SO.
 IN THIS CONNECTION, I VENTURE THEREFORE TO SAY THAT A SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITY LIES UPON THE DEVELOPED COUNTRIES, WHICH FIND THEMSELVES IN THE PARADOXICAL POSITION OF CONSTITUTING A PREPONDERANT MINORITY. NOT ONLY THEIR HEAVY CONTRIBUTIONS BUT ALSO THIER CONSTRUCITVE INTEREST AND PARTICIPATION ARE VITAL TO HT HEALTH OF THE ORGANIZATION. IN FAO, THIS HAS BEEN RECOGNIZED AND RESPECTED MORE THAN IN OTHER ORGANIZATIONS. AMONG THE REASONS FOR THIS, HAVE BEEN THEIR WISE AND CONSTRUCTIVE PARTICIPATION IN DEBATE AND USEFUL ACTION RATHER THAN INSISTENCE ON PRESTIGE UNCLASSIFIED

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OF POSITION OF A MEASURED QUANTITY OF POSTS, THEIR WILLINGNESS TO SEARCH FOR AND ACCEPT CONSENSUS RATHER THAN TO IMPOSE THEIR STRENGTH ON ISSUES, AND THEIR RECOGNITION THAT FOR DEVELOPMENT AID TO BE SUCCESSFUL, IT MUST BE INTEGRATED INTO NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLANS BY THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES THEMSELVES, RATHER THAN REMAINING EXOGENOUS IN CONCEPTION, OBJECTIVE AND APPLICATION. UNQTE

3. THE NEUE ZURCHER ZEITUNG REPORTED THE SPEECH ACCURATELY AT THE TIME IN SUMMARY, BUT DID NOT INCLUDE THE REMARK ABOUT THE DEVELOPED COUNTRIES' NOT PRESSING FOR ANY DETERMINED NUMBER OF POSTS.BEAUDRY

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